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# VISITORS' HAND BOOK



OF

## + Old Point Comfort, Virginia + = AND VICINITY. =

*INCLUDING*

FORT MONROE, NATIONAL SOLDIERS'  
HOME, NATIONAL CEMETERY,  
HAMPTON INSTITUTE, TOWN OF  
HAMPTON, NEWPORT NEWS,  
NORFOLK, etc.



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# NEWPORT NEWS OLD POINT COMFORT

AND VICINITY



# Old Point Comfort.



BY reference to the map on opposite page, a narrow strip of land, almost surrounded by water, extending out from the eastern shore of Virginia into the broad expanse of water formed by the confluence of the Chesapeake Bay and James River, will be noticed. This is "Old Point Comfort."

In 1606, a company was formed in London, for the purpose of colonizing Virginia. The persons named in the charter, which was dated April 10, 1606, as founders of the London Company, were Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hakluyt, and Edward Maria Wingfield.

The Company guaranteed, for every £.12 10s. (about \$60.) paid into the treasury, to give the contributor one hundred acres of land in the new colony, with the promise of one hundred acres more when the first lot had been cultivated.

The Company organized, fitted out their vessels under the command of Captain Christopher Newport, who had acquired a maritime reputation by former expeditions against the Spaniards. On December 19, 1606, one hundred and five men embarked in these vessels, destined to form the first colony of Virginia, but not very well selected for such a purpose. Of this number, forty eight were "gentlemen," persons brought up to esteem labor degrading. There were but twelve laborers, four carpen-

ters and a few other *casualties*. The leaders were Wingfield, a merchant, Gosnold, who had made a previous voyage to the New World, the chaplain; and last but not least, that seventeenth century hero—John Smith—soldier, sailor, discoverer, diplomatist, and historian of the enterprise.

The names of the future consellers to whom the government of the colony was to be entrusted, were carried to Virginia a profound secret, carefully sealed up in a tin box, along with king James' instructions. Newport proceeded by way of the Canaries and the West Indies, and, during the long passage, cabals arose. Wingfield, jealous of Smith's reputation, accused him of a desire to murder the Council, usurp the government and make himself King of Virginia; and on this extraordinary charge Smith was arrested and kept in confinement during the remainder of the passage. Several weeks were spent among the Canaries Islands. Sailing thence in search of the coast of Virginia, a fortunate storm drove the vessels past Roanoke, and after a four months' passage from England they entered the Chesapeake Bay or "Mother of the Waters." The two lieutnants at the entrance were named *Cape Henry* and *Cape Charles*, after the king's two sons. A party of thirty landing at Cape Henry, were attacked by five of the natives and had two of their number wounded. Presently the ship came to anchor at old *Powhatan*, at the mouth of a broad river or estuary. Here the sealed box was opened and the names of the Council made known. They then continued their journey of exploration up the Powhatan, (James) trafficking with the natives, who received them kindly and regarded them with curious eyes, as many of them had never before seen a white man. A spot was finally chosen



FORT MONROE, LOOKING TOWARDS THE BAY.

for settlement on the north bank of the river, about fifty miles from the bay. This spot was called *Jamestown*, and the river soon came to be known as the James River.

In July, 1608, Captain Smith, with a select party, started in an open boat to explore the shores of the Chesapeake. They proceeded safely on their way as far as the entrance of the Piankatank River when a mighty storm arose with thunder, wind and furious rain.

In their open boats they were exposed to the full force of the blast, and sought in vain to stem its fury and find their way into some convenient harbor. Unable to ride at anchor, they put their frail bark before the wind and scudded toward the southward. York river was passed; then Back river, neither of which they could make; till finally they came to the sandy strip of land jutting out into the entrance of the James River, rounding which they found shelter from the storm, and named the place, in gratitude of heart, *Point Comfort*. The adjective "old," has since been given to distinguish it from its sister shelter, New Point Comfort, higher up the bay.

For years before the war Old Point Comfort had been celebrated as a watering place. The singular salubrity of its location, assured it a wide celebrity as a place of residence during the heated summer months. The mildness of the climate, also, aided to produce the same results. Families from the upper country flocked hither during the summer months to enjoy the unaccustomed luxury of sea bathing and fishing. But the outbreak of the war, which wrought so many changes, interposed an abrupt interruption to the career of Old Point Comfort as a resort for pleasure. Military necessity demanded the demolition of the hotel building which interfered



materially with the range of the guns of the fort, and for several years Old Point Comfort was known only as an important military post.

The Hotel was originally located nearly opposite to where the "Sherwood" now stands, and was built in the shape of a half moon. Previous to 1856, it was owned by several parties in succession; during this year it came into possession of Hon. Joseph Segar, who owned it was what is now known as "Roseland." Mr. C. C. Willard, of Washington, D. C., was his partner. It was run by these gentlemen until its demolition, above referred to. In 1863, Mr. Willard seeing the necessity of a hotel, erected an unpretentious frame structure near the government wharf. After the war he sold it to Mr. Norris of Richmond, who in turn sold it to Capt. Clark (now of Phœbus) who took Mr. Wilson in as partner, considerably enlarging the building. In 1873, it was sold for \$27,000, a Mr. West of Petersburg buying it for Mr. S. M. Shemmaker, the Baltimore millionaire who installed Mr. Harrison Phœbus as manager.

The modest building was added to from year to year by Mr. Phœbus, until at his death, in 1886, it was one of the finest and most complete hostleries in the United States; and to-day it stands a monument to his skill and energy.

Mr. Phœbus died after a short illness, on Thursday morning, February 25th, 1886, at six o'clock, age 46 years. Since his death the Hotel has been under the management of Mr. F. N. Pike, who was Mr. Phœbus right hand man for a number of years. Under his administration the house has retained its old time prestige and popularity, and it enjoys a liberal patronage the year round.



VIEW EAST FROM HOTEL



THE BATHING HOUSE

The climate of Old Point Comfort is unequalled in salubrity and general healthfulness. The record of the Meteorological Observatory for the past ten years shows the following average temperatures: Summer, 70 degrees; Autumn, 51 degrees; Winter, 47 degrees; Spring 54 1/2 degrees. It is a well known fact that every Post Physician that has been stationed here speaks in the highest terms of its healthfulness, based on thousands of cases of a malignant type, as well as for its beneficial effect upon those troubled or harassed with certain diseases.

The Hygeia stands directly on the head of the Government wharf, which is the largest and finest landing in the country, and its numerous verandas which during the Spring and Winter seasons are well filled by guests come directly on Hampton Roads, thus affording the most effective and the most commanding and ever-changing panoramic view no other hotel every the world can give. The building is four stories high and has ample accommodations for one thousand guests. It is furnished throughout regardless of everything that the health, comfort and convenience of its guests. Steam radiations in every room, fires in every room, elevators, electric bells, or oral enunciators, electric lights, bath rooms, both public and private, for hot or cold, fresh or sea water baths, with the most perfect system of ventilation and drainage, and its unsurpassed cuisine, places the Hygeia in the foremost rank of like establishments.

A special feature is a complete set of baths, including Turkish, Russian, Thermoelectric, Magnetic, Sulphur and Vapor baths, which adds another and most wonderful agent to the therapeutic advantages of the Hygeia as beneficial as it is unique.



DINING ROOM, HYGEIA.



The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co. have extended their road across Mill Creek, following the water line and terminating within a few yards of the Hotels, thus making it convenient for tourists by rail, as by boat.

The "Shirwood" is another hotel, accomodating from 20 to 30 guests, situated near the entrance to the Port. Mr. Geo. Barker, Proprietor.

Old Point Comfort is owned entirely by the Government. Not a foot of this land can be bought at any price, nor can a dwelling of any kind be erected thereon without a special act of Congress.

A walk of about three minutes from the Hygeia brings us to Fort Mifflin, a description of which is given in the next chapter.

## The Chamberlin.

This magnificent Hotel was opened to the public in the Spring of 1896. Nearly a million and a quarter dollars were spent in its construction and equipment.

Its frontage of 754 feet, is greater than that of the National Capitol building at Washington. It has 554 rooms, of which 470 are guest chambers; and of these 200 have private

baths attached, each with hot and cold fresh and salt-water fountains.

All its public rooms are spacious and luxurious and include, beside the princely parlors, the beautiful dining room, with its unobstructed view of the sea; a restaurant 110 feet by 20; several private dining rooms; a billiard room for ladies and another for gentlemen; sun parlors and bowling-alleys, card-rooms and writing-rooms.

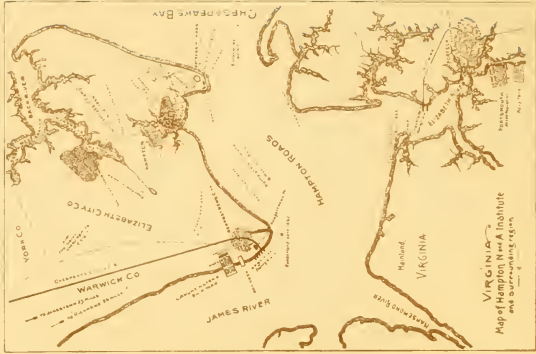
One of the most alluring spots in the Chamberlin is the winter palm garden, on the south side of the building and like the dining-room, commanding a view of the sea.

The Chamberlin is heated by steam and open fireplaces; lighted by electricity from its own plant of three distinct systems, so if one fails two others are ready for service.

The cuisine is unsurpassed by any house in the country, both as to variety and methods of preparation.

Mr. Geo. W. Swett, the Manager, has a national reputation as a successful host, and his name is a guarantee of the high standard and excellence that will characterize the management of this famous hostelry.





VIRGINIA  
Map of Hampton News Institute  
and surrounding region



DANCING PAVILION, HYGEIA.



## Fort Monroe.

The natural fitness of this locality for a military station was early recognized and taken advantage of. As early as March, 1639, one Harvey built a fort at Old Point Comfort, and Pres. James O. Barnes River, and a regular U. S. Army garrison, a fee of payment of a 20c and 10c was demanded from every ship that passed. The Commissioners of the Treasury ordered the oaths of Allegiance and submission for all persons arriving at the colony and to send all necessary documents to the unloading any of their goods.

The following is the original plan for its erection: Matter of Fortification was never taken into consideration and Capt. Saml. Mathews was ordered to undertake the raising



THE POST OFFICE — CIRCA 1850

of a fort on Point Comfort, whereupon Capt. Robert Fliegate, Capt. John Thomas, Trevelyan Capt. Thomas Cooper, Capt. John Uty, Capt. Tho. Willoby, Mr. Tho. Heyrick and Lieut. Wm. Parry, by full consent of the whole Assembly, were chosen to view the place, determine what manner of fort shall be erected, and to compounde and agree with the said Capt. Matthews for building, raising and furnishing the same." &c.

The ground upon which Fort Monroe stands, was ceded by the Legislature of Virginia to the Government of the United States, to be used as the site of a military post. General Simon Denison, military engineer, was employed to design the fortifications, and in the year 1819 the ground plan was traced, and the work of erection commenced.

The Fort covers about eight acres of ground, and is the largest in the world. Its form is that of an irregular Pentagon. Two sides of which command the water front, while those which are landward face the galls, which are of granite, rise to the height of 25 feet, and about the entire work a moat extends—from seventy-five to one hundred feet into the water and lined with granite—the water in which rises to the height of 2 feet 4 inches high. On the land side the ramparts are solid, with the exception of some of the flanks which are casemated, but on the side toward the water the armament consists of two rows of guns, one casemated and one *in barbette*.

Up to the commencement of the Rebellion it had 125 the Government two and a half million soldiers.

We cross the bridge which spans the moat, pass the open gates, pass the sentinels on the massive bastion, and find ourselves behind its frowning walls. We



CASEMATE WHERE JEFFERSON DAVIS WAS CONFINED.

observe that the interior is well laid out with broad and partially shaded walks.

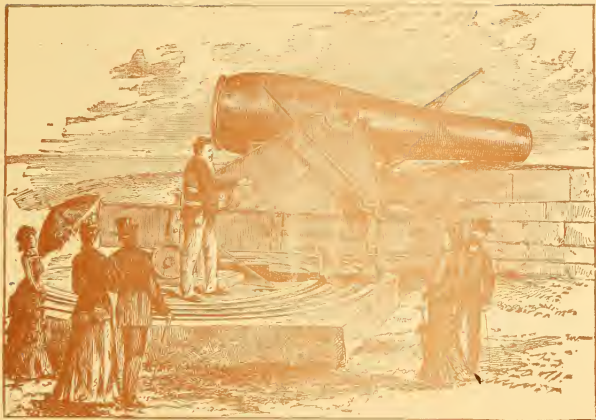
Numerous live oaks are growing about the parade ground, which afford luxuriant shade under which the colored boys march and are relaxing or listening to the sweet and enlivening strains of the band of their black band stationed here. We first mount the ramparts, from which we have a fine view of the Hampton Roads and Chesapeake Bay on the water side, and of the surrounding level but picturesque country, with its farms and villages here and there on the land side. Leaving the ramparts, which afford a delightful promenade, we will next visit the museum, which is open daily for the inspection of visitors. After examining the many curious and interesting relics of warfare we see in the possession of the fort, give the reader some idea of the routine work of the fort.

To the casual visitor there appears to be nothing of importance going on. We meet but few officers or soldiers, besides the garrison, and occasionally a detail squad here and there, but we have come to expect that there is not only a fortified garrison, but also a school. Four officers from each of the 3<sup>d</sup> Regiments of Artillery are ordered here on special duty of study and instruction for two years. Here the theories they have studied are put into practice. Many of the text books and documents used in the school are placed in the museum.

There is *Guard Mounting* every morning at half 6 o'clock, excepting Sundays, when it occurs an hour later.

*Dress Parade* every day, Sundays and Sundays excepted, at half an hour before sunset.

In addition to the other drillings, practice every afternoon in summer, outside of the fort, half of the day, from the machine top, or from the ramparts.



A LIGHTNING.

In July and August there is sea coast firing every afternoon, between 3 and 4 o'clock, excepting Saturdays and Sundays.

Church service is held in the chapel on the grounds, every Sunday morning at 10.45 o'clock. This chapel is aptly called, "Church of the Centurion" Rev. C. W. Freeland, Chaplain.

Besides places already mentioned, there is also an electrical and engineering department, and a chemical laboratory.

Lt. Col. Royal T. Frank is the officer in command.

In casemate No. 2, 1st Front, near the postern gate, Jefferson Davis was confined after his capture; also in Carroll Hall, now used as officers' quarters.

Leaving the fort, we next drive to the National Soldiers' Home. Before entering the main road we pass a pretty little church on our left. This is St. Mary's Catholic Church, Rev. Father Mercer, pastor. Services on Sunday at 10:30 a. m. Vespers at 7:30 p. m. Daily services at 7:30 a. m. We also notice on our left an enclosure containing stacks of cannon balls, condemned ordnance, or parts of same.

On our right is the Government machine shop now used as recitation rooms for the Artillery School. We soon come to an iron bridge spanning Mill Creek, in the centre of which paces a sentinel night and day, crossing which, we find ourselves in Virginia, on the sacred soil of the "Old Dominion."

On the opposite side of the bridge is Chesapeake City or Phoebus, a town of over one thousand inhabitants. There are several popular boarding houses here, the principal ones being Bright View House, C. E. Welch, proprietor, and Larrabee's private boarding house.



CHESAPEAKE CITY M. F. CHURCH.

# National Home for D. V. Soldiers.

## SOUTHERN BRANCH.



We will take the reader back to *ante-bellum* days. From the boat, on our way from Norfolk, we notice on our left a large imposing structure, delightfully situated in the midst of trees and shrubbery, facing the broad waters of Hampton Roads, and directly at the entrance of Hampton Creek. This, at the

time we refer to, was the Chesapeake Female College, under the control of the Baptist denomination. It was built in 1852, at a cost of \$64,000, and was occupied about



MAIN ENTERPRISE HOME.

November of the same year, but was not finished till the winter of 1859—60. The property originally comprised 26 acres. In this Institution many of the daughters of the F. F. V.'s prosecuted their studies uninterruptedly until the breaking out of the war, when they were called to their homes, and the building—which had often echoed with their laughter—was soon put to a far different use. It was taken possession of by the Government, and about October, 1861, was used as a hospital, and later, by General Schofield, as headquarters. In 1864 the property was purchased by General Butler, who in 1870, sold it to the Government to be used as a home for disabled soldiers, \$50,000 being paid for the same.

The first Deputy Governor of this Branch was Rev. Charles A. Raymond, the former President of the College, who was appointed January, 1871. February 1, of the same year, there were about 50 members; but as the place became better known, the number gradually increased. The number that could be originally accommodated was about 350.

On the 17th of January, 1873, the present Governor, Col. P. T. Woodfin, assumed charge, and each year since, the institution has been taxed for room. Numerous brick Barracks have been erected, as well as an immense hospital accommodating 900 patients. There is also a commodious laundry, boiler house, ice house, in which the ice used by the institution is manufactured; a fine Library, a large Hall built for amusement purposes, etc. In fact, as far as possible, everything necessary to make the place comfortable and attractive to the members, has been done. Since its organization, about 9,000 veterans have been admitted and cared for. Number of vet-



WARD MEMORIAL HALL, HOME.

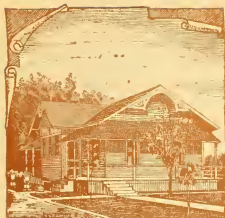
erans at present 3,750. Notwithstanding the constant addition of new brick barracks, the Home is being continually taxed to its utmost capacity. There is little doubt but that this branch will, in course of time, equal in importance and attractions either of the other Branches.

The officers of the Institution are: Col. P. T. Woodfin, Governor; Maj. Wm. Thompson, Treasurer; Col. Charles Candy, Com. Sub.; Dr. S. K. Towle, Surgeon, Dr. E. I. Shores, first assistant; Dr. Chas. K. Brewer, second assistant; Rev. W. M. Price, Chaplain.

Entering the grounds on the south side, adjoining Roseland, the estate of Mrs. Harrison Phœbus, we drive direct to the entrance of the Main Building, where we will find a Guide in waiting, who is ready at once to take us to every place of interest. We first enter the

### MAIN BUILDING.

and take a peep into company quarters. Everything is neat and clean as though "house cleaning day" were but yesterday. The men are sitting down or lying on cots reading. All seem contented and happy. We pass up on to the next floor; it is but a duplicate of the first; and so on, all the way up. We find wash rooms, bath rooms and other conveniences, on every floor, while an elevator is running constantly for the accomodation of those veterans who are afflicted or too feeble to walk up and down the stairway. A view from the piazza on the fifth floor is well worth the exertion of climbing. Here we can see for miles; and the ever-changing panorama of passing boats is one that must be seen to be appreciated. We now descend, and our



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE.



PAVILION.

guide will take special pride in conducting us to the

### WARD MEMORIAL HALL.

This is a handsome brick structure and reflects great credit alike on the architect and builder. It was built by funds bequeathed for that purpose by Mr. Horatio Ward of London, England. The original amount left was \$100,000, which with interest, &c. up to the time it was applied, amounted to about \$111,000. This amount was divided among the different Branches.

This building is used exclusively for amusement purposes, the theatre being one of the finest in the South, with a seating capacity of 1500. Entertainments of all kinds are given here for the members, who are admitted free.

Adjoining the theatre is a billiard room, with four tables, where those who delight in that pastime can amuse themselves. Immediately under the Billard Room is a large assembly room, called the "Smoking Room," where the men congregate and play checkers, dominoes, etc.: and relate over their war experiences.

A short distance from the Theatre building, near the dock, is the

#### HOTEL and RESTAURANT.

a handsome circular building, nicely fitted up, where friends of members can secure accommodations while visiting them. It is also liberally patronized by the members, as a good square meal can be obtained there at a nominal price. A short distance from the Restaurant is the

#### QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Here is kept all the clothing issued to members, blankets, bedding, household articles, etc.

The office of the Governor is in a neat building near the boulevard, a short distance from his residence; while those of the Treasurer and Commissary of Subsistence are in a two-story brick building near "Ward's Memorial Hall."

In the rear of the Governor's residence are the

#### CONSERVATORIES.

If we are a lover of the beautiful in nature, we can enjoy the brightness and fragrance of the many choice and rare plants that are here found. The houses are un-



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MAGAZINE.

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COL. P. T. WOODFIN, GOVERNOR.

der the management of Mr. E. J. Dexter whose skill and taste in floriculture are noticeable on every hand. Leaving the Conservatory, we wend our way to

#### THE HOSPITAL,

which is the largest and most imposing structure on the grounds. The patients treated here average about four hundred daily. They have the best of care and the most skillful treatment.

#### THE LIBRARY,

which we next visit, is on the second floor of the brick building in the rear of the Main Building. The first contribution to the Library was made by the "Ladies Union" of New York City, in 1871. Many kindly disposed persons have contributed from time to time, many valuable and interesting volumes. Among the donors might be mentioned Mrs. General McClellen, Mrs. Zollikoffer, and Mr. Albert Crane,

of New York City, Mrs. Oswin Wells, Mrs. J. Watson Black, Mrs. H. Wetmore, Mrs. J. N. Goodwin, Miss Batterson, and Mr. Black, of Hartford Conn.; and many others.

Governor Woodfin has always taken a warm interest in the Library, and from special funds he has added at different times many choice and interesting works, till it now numbers over seven thousand volumes—American, German and French.

There are between one and two hundred papers taken, daily, tri-weekly, and weekly: besides a number of magazines and other periodicals.

The Library is open daily except Sundays and Sundays from 8 a. m. to 12 m. from 1 to 5 p. m. and from 6 to 8 p. m.

A visit to the new

#### DINING HALL.

situated near the Boiler House is a very interesting one. Here about 1200 men can sit at table at once, and all the appointments for cooking and serving are perfect.

During hot weather, fans are kept in constant motion to keep the atmosphere cool and the room is lighted by electricity.

The Home is a great resort during the summer for excursion parties, which afford amusement for the old vets. who enjoy the company of the children, and take pleasure in watching them at their childish games. To accommodate such parties, a pavilion has been erected at the extreme south-end of the grounds, where the picnickers can enjoy themselves dancing, and also secure a shelter in wet weather.

In addition to the buildings already mentioned, there is a Beer Saloon, Boiler House, Laundry, Bake House, Fire Engine House, a number of brick and frame bar



HOSPITAL, SOLDIERS' HOME.



BAKERY, SOLDIERS' HOME.



BRICK BARRACKS, HOME.

racks, and a neat commodious Chapel, where services are held every Sabbath, Catholic in the morning and Protestant in the afternoon.

The buildings are not the only places of attraction at the Home. The drive along the water front is delightful, and the view beautiful. A broad, board terrace runs the entire length of the breakwater, which is taken advantage of by the members as a promenade.

The grounds are well shaded and tastefully laid out, and it would be difficult to find a place more suited to the object for which it is intended. Numerous arc lights at various points, give the Home, from the water front, the appearance of a city at night.

There is a well organized steam fire department connected with the institution.

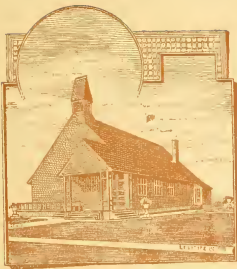
Besides the entertainments in "Ward" Memorial Hall, the members have many other amusements, such as boating, yachting, fishing and salt-water bathing.

The fine military band connected with this institution under the leadership of Prof. Leavy, gives *Open Air Concerts* every afternoon, except Sundays, from 3 to 4 o'clock.

On Sunday morning, there is *Outside Inspection* at 9.15 o'clock. Viewed from the piazza, the sight of over 2,000 veterans, arranged in companies around the spacious walks of the grounds, is very picturesque, and is enjoyed by thousands of visitors yearly.

Many of the members pass their time in making fancy and curio articles to sell to visitors as souvenirs of their visit.

Leaving the Home grounds, we next visit the National Cemetery, a description of which will be given in the next chapter.



CHAPEL SOLDIERS' HOME.



CONVALESCENT BARRACKS, HOME.

# The National Cemetery.

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How sleep the brave, who sink to rest,  
By all their Country's wishes blest,  
When Spring with dewy fingers cold  
Returns to deck their hallowed mould,  
She there shall dress a sweeter sod  
Than Fancy's best have ever trod.

This cemetery is situated on the south-eastern side of the Normal School grounds, and is separated from the Soldier's Home by a narrow inlet of Hampton Creek.

The lot is an irregular figure, of many sides, six of them being right lines, the balance following the windings of the inlet, above mentioned. To the casual observer the lot appears to be a parallelogram, about twice as long as wide.

It contains 11.61 acres of level land, and was purchased by the United States in 1867, for the sum of \$6,326. It is enclosed by a rubble stone wall, laid in mortar, and covered by a rough coping.

We enter the enclosure by a gate on the north side, and proceed to the office of the Superintendent, Major A. J. Birdsall, which is on the left hand side, near the entrance, where we register our names, and then proceed up the main avenue, twenty feet wide, on either side of which are well kept flower beds.

About 350 feet from the entrance is a mound upon which the flagstaff stands. Facing this mound on either side, is a large cannon planted vertically. Here the



COL. CHAS. CANDY, COM. SUB., SOLDIERS' HOME.

road branches off to the right and left. Near the centre of the cemetery is an imposing solid granite

### MONUMENT,

65 feet high, erected through the efforts of Miss D. L. Dix of New York. This monument stands in the centre of a circular plat, 74 feet in diameter, which is enclosed by an iron fence, the posts being 3 inch rifled cannon (Rodman) and the pickets musket-barrels with bayonets fixed.

We naturally look for mounds over the graves, as in other cemeteries, but if it were not for the long straight rows of low head-stones, we would not know they were graves. The ground is perfectly level, sodded and kept closely cropped, giving the whole ceme-

tery the appearance of being carpeted with a beautiful green.

The graves are arranged in double parallel rows, feet to feet, with paths five wide between each row of head stones: these stones contain the name, rank and State of the deceased, if known.

At the south-east end of the cemetery, are the graves of many Confederates who died while prisoners of war, either in the Hospital at Camp Hamilton or in Fort Monroe.

The interments to March 1, 1893, are as follows :

	<i>Known</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>
White Union Soldiers & Sailors	5930	493	6423
Confederate " "	280	—	280
Civilians " "	83	—	83
Total interments			6786

(This includes 180 interments in New Cemetery mentioned below.)

All the bodies interred here previous to May 14, 1871, were removed from their places of original interment, being mostly from the grounds of the general hospitals in this vicinity, but some were removed from Big Bethel, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Craney Island, and other places. The interments from the Soldier's Home average about 20 a month.

A new cemetery was opened in July, 1892, and is situated north of, and adjoining the Home grounds.



From Hargett's Ave.

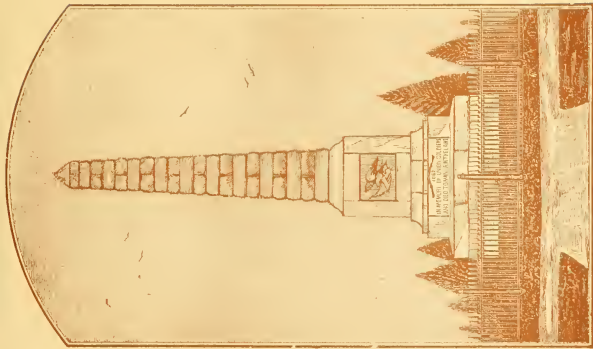
View taken by Hargett & Blumhert.

NATIONAL CEMETERY.

# The Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.

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This Institution is situated about two and a half miles from Old Point Comfort, on an estate of one hundred and thirty acres, once known as "Little Scotland," and during the Civil War as "Camp Hampton," the base Hospital of the Army of the James, where as many as 12,000 sick and wounded Union soldiers were cured for at one time. On the close of the war, it became headquarters for the "Hampton District" (including ten counties of Virginia), the "Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands," commissioned by Congress to recruit, register justice during the suspension of the civil rights, advise, train, provide work for and scatter to their former homes the throngs of contrabands who had been dependent on government rations, bring back those who had been sold away, and have general guardianship of the mission schools among them. Gen. S. C. Armstrong, Bureau Officer in charge of the "Hampton District," advised that a Normal and Industrial School be established on this spot, and, on request of the American Missionary Association, undertook the



MONUMENT, NATIONAL CEMETERY.

work. The estate was purchased in the summer of 1867 for the sum of nineteen thousand (\$19,000) dollars. After erecting the necessary buildings, the school was opened in April, 1868, with fifteen scholars and two teachers.

In June, 1870, the Institute received a charter from the General Assembly of Virginia, creating a corporation, with power to choose their own successors, and the realty property exempt from taxation. This board numbers seventeen members, who hold and control the entire property of the School by deed from the American Missionary Association. The School is undenominational, but decidedly religious in its training.

In March, 1872, the General Assembly of Virginia passed an Act selling the Institution the interest on one third of the Agricultural College land grant of Virginia. Its share was one hundred thousand acres, which were sold in May, 1872, for \$625,000. Nine-tenths of this money was invested in State bonds bearing six per cent. interest; the other tenth has been expended in the purchase of additional land, increasing the size of the home farm to one hundred and ninety acres. The land thus received was a part of the "Segar" estate, adjacent to the Institute grounds, and well adapted to the needs of the School. The State has, thus far, promptly paid the interest on the fund, amounting to about ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars annually. None of this money can be used for building purposes. It supplies about one tenth of the running expenses of the School. The disbursement of this income must be ratified by a Board of six Curators (three of whom may be Colored,) appointed by the Governor every four years. They meet with the Trustees, annually, in May, and attend their deliberations.



VIRGINIA HALL, SCHOOL.

In addition to the Home farm of one hundred and fifty acres, the institution also has a grass and grain farm of six hundred acres, about four miles outside of Hampton, which is worked by the students. This is called "Hemenway" farm.

The entire property of the School is now valued at \$500,000, most of which has been paid for by private contributions.

The leading aim of the School is to give the Negro and Indian races a class of intelligent, earnest professional teachers. The demand for which is increasing yearly, and is far beyond its ability to supply.

In April, 1878, Indian students were admitted, the first being seventeen Arapahoe, Cheyenne and Kiowa warriors, taken from a band of about fifty, who had been held as prisoners of war in St. Augustine, Florida, for three years, under Capt. R. H. Pratt, of the United States Army. Success with these, the most savage of the Indian races, led to further efforts to over-belody and the number has increased yearly, until at the present time, there are 117, both sexes being represented; these are from fifteen Agencies, and represent as many tribes.

The United States pays \$200 a year for each Indian, which covers the cost of board and clothing. Tuition, besides all buildings and outfit, is provided by friends, as well as the land re-ristal from twelve to twenty outside the government quota.

The School is not under control of, nor supported by, the government.

It requires about \$100,000 a year for running expenses; of which the school receives from the government \$20,000; the State of Virginia, \$10,000 and from investments



ACADEMIC HALL, SCHOOL.

and rentals, about \$10,000. The balance, \$600,000, is contributed by friends of the cause, chiefly in annual scholarships of \$7,200 each. The pressing need of the school is an endowment fund of one million dollars.

The following is the number of students in attendance January, 1893.

Negro Students,	538
Indian " "	135
<hr/>	
Total	673

*No. of officers and teachers in class rooms, agriculture, work shops and house-keeping departments, 80; 13 are graduates of the School. Ninety per cent. of the seven hundred graduates are teaching, or have taught in this and neighboring States.*

*Classes may be visited each week-day, except Monday, between 10:30 and 12 o'clock A. M.*

*The work shops may be visited any week-day.*

*The dinner hour is 12:20 P. M., at which time all students are assembled in the large dining room in Virginia Hall.*

*Inspection every morning, except Sunday and Monday, at 8:30.*

*Church services in Memorial Chapel on Sunday afternoons, at 4 o'clock. Seats free.*

With this much by way of introduction and explanation, we will wend our way first to the OFFICES, which are situated in a neat frame building, near the Library.

Here we register our names, if we choose, and securing a guide, start on our tour of inspection. We first visit the



MEMORIAL CHAPEL, SCHOOL.

## LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

which is in what was formerly the office building, built in 1882. Here are many curiosities of African and Indian origin, neatly arranged in show cases; together with about 5,000 volumes, and many of the leading newspapers and periodicals of the day; while on the first floor may be seen specimens of the handiwork of the students in the various industrial departments. From here we will go to

## MEMORIAL CHAPEL.

one of the handsomest Church edifices in the South. It was built in 1887, by Mr. Elbert B. Monroe, as a memorial to the late Mr. Frederick G. Marquand. Leaving the chapel we proceed to

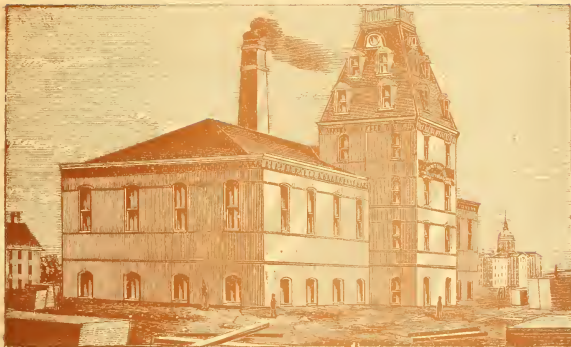
## ACADEMIC HALL.

situated between the Gymnasium and Science Building. This building was erected in 1882, to replace the one destroyed by fire on the night of November 9th, 1879.

It is divided into three floors of different sizes, while on the upper floor is a large room for prayer meetings and other purposes. After spending an interesting half hour or so listening to the recitations by the colored and Indian students, we will visit the

## SCIENCE BUILDING,

adjoining, which is also used for class purposes; after which we will step over to the



HUNTINGTON INDUSTRIAL WORKS, 1896.

## HUNTINGTON INDUSTRIAL WORKS,

a large ~~brick~~ structure, on the water's edge, the munificent gift of Mr. C. P. Huntington, of New York. In this department we find not only colored workmen, but also skilled white mechanics. This is necessary because of the demands made upon the Works for window sash, door frames, scroll-work, mouldings, &c. The lower floor is devoted to the manufacture and dressing of plain lumber; the second floor for circular sawing, scroll sawing, turning, &c., while the third floor is used as a storage and drying room. The power is furnished by a Corliss engine. Mr. Albert Howe is business manager of this department, with Mr. H. S. Thompson, Superintendent.

The carpenter shop is in an annex to the Huntington Industrial Works, as is also the technical department in blacksmithing and wood working, where girls as well as boys are taught the use of tools. The carpenter shop is in charge of Mr. J. Sugden; while Mr. F. L. Small, has charge of the technical Department.

A short distance from the Saw Mill is the

## MACHINE SHOP,

Mr. G. W. King, the proprietor. All the gas and steam fitting, repairing of machinery and general machine work is done by this department, the power being supplied by a large engine, the gift of Mr. Geo. H. Corliss. The manufacture of wheelbarrows and trucks, is also carried on here. Leaving this building we pass, on our way, two boys' dormitories, which are of no interest to the visitor.

The next place of interest is



STONE MEMORIAL, SCHOOL.

## THE STONE BUILDING.

which was erected in 1886, through the liberality of Mrs. Valenia Stone, of Malden, Mass. who gave \$20,000 toward it. We come first to the GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL ROOM and SEWING and TAILORING DEPARTMENTS. Here all the mending and making of garments is done, and uniforms for the students are made. Here also can be purchased souvenirs of our visit to the institution—articles made by Indian and colored students—such as decorated pottery, paper knives, dressed dolls, needle handiwork, etc. Miss M. T. Galpin has general charge.

We next visit the PRINTING OFFICE and BOOK BINDERY, occupying two rooms on the first floor. Here we find a large cylinder press running by steam power; also two job presses. From twenty to twenty-five hands are at work: colored, Indian, and white. We also notice several veterans from the Soldiers' Home at the case, while the bookbinder also wears the uniform of Uncle Sam. This department is kept busy all the time. Several monthly and quarterly publications are issued; also a weekly paper, besides pamphlets and job work of every description. The office is self supporting, and has a good local trade. The upper floors of this building are used for boys' dormitories.

Adjoining this building is the

## CONSERVATORY

built in 1883, in charge of Mr. C. L. Goodrich, here our flowers and plants can be obtained at reasonable prices.

Facing the "Stone" building is the



WIGWAM, SCHOOL.

## WIGWAM.

built in 1879. This building contains dormitories for the Indian boys.

A short distance from this building is the

## BARN

This is a large frame structure, built in 1878. Here can be seen short-horn and Alderney stock; Morgan and Percheron horses, milch cows, swine, poultry, &c., also a large silo. The view from the top of the Barn is very extensive, and well worth the effort of climbing. The entire farming department is in charge of Mr. Albert Howe.

We next visit the

## TRAINING SHOPS,

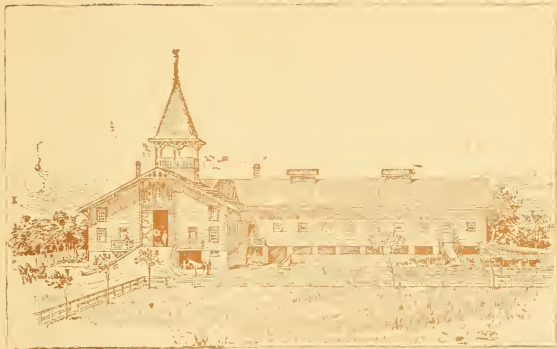
situated in the rear of the Barn, on the corner facing the main road to Hampton and Old Point Comfort.

The main brick building contains on the first floor the HARNESS SHOP; on the second floor the SHOE DEPARTMENT. The FLY SHOP is in a low frame building near the Barn.

These buildings were finished in 1884.

In a brick building in the rear of the Barn is the WHEELWRIGHT and BLACKSMITH SHOP.

The PAINT SHOP and KNITTING DEPARTMENT is in a frame building near the Holly Tree Inn.



BARN. SCHOOL.

## THE GYMNASIUM

This Building is between the Indian Training Shop and the Boiler House. In the rear of the Gymnasium is the HOLY TREE INN, where the boys can procure simple refreshments at a moderate cost.

## THE HOSPITAL

is situated between the Gymnasium and the Office building.

## THE LAUNDRY.

is situated in the rear of Virginia Hall. Here the washing and ironing for the entire school is done.

## THE COLORED GIRLS' COTTAGE,

of which we give an illustration on another page, was built in 1886, and has accommodations for 50 scholars and 12 teachers. It is located to the right of Virginia Hall.

In the rear of the Principal's residence is the GIRLS RECREATION HALL, a cosy, well lighted, well ventilated, room where the social gatherings are held. Connected with it is a KITCHEN where the girls are given lessons in cooking.

But three more buildings remain for inspection two of which are used as dormitories for female students. The first one we visit is

## WINONA LODGE,

which was built in 1882 and is intended for Indian girls. On the first floor is the



WINONA, SCHOOL.

sewing room, assembly room and reception room; the upper stories contain dormitories. After inspecting the neatly kept rooms, we next visit

### VIRGINIA HALL.

which is connected with Winona by an enclosed walk, and passed to the front porch where we witness the beginning of the students to dinner, headed by the School Brass Band of discipline. After all the students have filed into the long dining room, we enter with the rest of the visitors. At the whir of the electric bell, all is silence, until at a signal the whole school joins in singing a hymn of thanks; after which, the students arise, seated and amuse themselves doing ample justice to the abundance of healthy and nourishing food that is placed before them.

This building is 79 feet front by 100 feet in width, with a wing running 100 feet to the rear. In the basement is the B. C. C. and Commissary department. The first floor contains the students' and teachers' sitting rooms, &c. The second and third floors contain the rooms of the teachers and colored female students. Teachers and students' parlors are on the second floor and a large well lighted chapel, capable of accommodating eight hundred people, is on the third floor. Virginia Hall was built in 1874, partly through the efforts of the "Hampton Singers", in a three year's singing campaign. It is the largest and handsomest building on the school grounds and contains every convenience.

Adjoining Winona is the



LIBRARY BUILDING, SCHOOL

## ABBY MAY HOME,

built in 1892, through the efforts of Miss Emily Austin, who is in charge of same. Here the girls receive special instructions in housekeeping, cooking, &c,

In the rear of Virginia Hall is the Gas House; which furnishes gas for all the principal buildings on the place; having a capacity of over 2,000 lights. This department is in charge of Mr. Gabor Vailen, Engineer. Several of the buildings are lighted by electricity.

The steam for heating, cooking and power is supplied by a nest of boilers located in a brick boiler house between the Saw Mill and Machine Shop. Underground pipes in brick arched drains, extend to all the principal buildings on the place, thus reducing fire risk, and adding to the comfort, convenience and utility of the institution.

A short drive brings us to the

## WHITTIER SCHOOL HOUSE.

on the site of the old "Butler School," at the entrance of the School grounds.

The building is a handsome frame structure, and contains every convenience necessary for the purpose for which it is used. It was erected in 1887, at a cost of \$15,400. It is used as a day school, and is maintained by the County six months in the year, and for three months by the Normal School, which supplies its teachers. The best time to visit it is about 11:30 P. M. There is a kitchen garden drill and singing from 12:30 to 1:30 P. M. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



GIRLS' COTTAGE, SCHOOL.

[The "Whittier" School was destroyed by fire on the evening of March 1st, 1890. Nothing was left standing but the brick foundation walls. It was rebuilt at once, on the plan of the former building, with but slight modifications, and re-opened in November, 1891.]

It might be pertinently asked here, who is the head of this vast and complete system of training, not only for the head but for the hands also. The prime mover in the matter is the Principal, General S. C. Armstrong, largely through whose efforts the School has grown to such proportions as to challenge the admiration of all who are interested in the welfare of the two races for whom it is designed. The finances of the institution are taken care of by the Treasurer, Mr. Geo. Foster Peabody, and the general business details are looked after closely by Mr. F. C. Briggs, the Business Manager, while the various departments are presided over by skilled and competent workmen.

From a recent official report of the school, we find that of 336 returned Indians now living but 35 have been disappointing or bad. Most of them are doing well, and some very well. Their success depends largely on the agent's interest and care for them.

They find employment as agency farmers, police, herders, clerks, stable-men, scouts, interpreters, drivers, assistant surveyors; a number are employed regularly as teachers, while others act as catechists, missionaries, nurses, physicians, etc. Those who learned trades here, as a rule, follow them where possible, while others run farms, cattle ranches or stores of their own.



PRINCIPAL'S RESIDENCE, SCHOOL.

Their health, while needing much care, is no longer a source of alarm. Since 1885, with an average yearly attendance of well over one hundred and thirty-five, the death rate has been but one a year.

Nine-tenths of the 759 Negro graduates, besides many under-graduates, have done good work as teachers, and about three-fourths have made it their life work, working also in the Sunday School and Temperance causes. Since 1870 they report having taught over 135,000 children.

The school has just published a book—Twenty-five Years' Work of Hampton Institute, which contains brief sketches of 723 graduates of the school, classes '71-'90, and 440 Indian students who have returned to the West after one or more years here. It can be had at the School Office. Price, 8¢.


Having hastily inspected the workings and progress of this famous institution, we enter our carriage and are driven along a broad road for about half a mile, passing on our way several modest dwellings, but the majority are one and two story frames. Some few of them bear the stamp of more than a day, but many of them are neat looking and the gardens in front kept in good order. Just at the turn of the road we pass, on our left, the old Tyler mansion, the former country residence of the ex-President; and soon come to the Bridge spanning the Hampton river, erected in January, 1891. The location of the bridge is about forty feet north of where the old bridge stood, which was burned during the war. Over the bridge we are in the town of Hampton, a brief sketch of which we will now give.



HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, WATER-FRONT VIEW.

# Hampton.

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WHEN the renowned Capt. John Smith first visited the site of the present town of Hampton, he found it but a small village, containing about eighteen houses covering but three acres of ground. It was then called *Aquihutan*, after a small tribe of Indians, who at that date numbered but about twenty warriors. Here he and his little party stopped in July, 1608, and were entertained by the natives before starting on their voyage of exploration up the Powhatan.

The village was settled by the English as early as 1610, although its modern name was not bestowed upon it till its establishment by law as a town in 1705.

In the colonial days it was a place of some importance for the shipment of produce and the importation of British goods and manufactures. In a work called "Notes on Virginia," published in 1764, by Thomas Jefferson, in answer to the query, "Which are the principal towns of Virginia?", Hampton is mentioned in connection with Norfolk, Richmond, Petersburg, and other towns—thus proving that it must have been a place of some importance.



GEN. N. C. ARMSTRONG, PRINCIPAL, HAMPTON INSTITUTE.

We doubt if any town or village of the same size has passed through so many and varied vicissitudes as the town of Hampton. One of the earliest engagements of the Revolutionary war was the successful defense of the town by the inhabitants, aided by a rifle company, against the boats of a British fleet, in October, 1775.

On Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1781, General Washington visited Hampton, and with the Count DeGrass, concerted the plan of siege by which the British forces surrendered at Yorktown on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October following. In 1812, the town was less fortunate than in 1775, being attacked by Admiral Cockburn and Sir Sidney Beckwith, with a flotilla of boats, and captured after a short but decisive action. On this occasion the place was given up to pillage, and the inhabitants who had been unable to flee were subjected to the most shameful indignities and barbarities. Even the British commander was moved to indignation at the excesses he was unable to prevent; and answering a congratulatory letter from his commanding general at Norfolk, deprecated all praises of his achievement, with the forcible and striking remark, "Worthless is the laurel that is steeped in woman's tears."

In an account of the war of 1812, written in "the ancient historical style," in 1816, the author thus graphically describes the desolation caused by Cockburn's visit to the little town:

"31 Now on the twenty-fifth day of the same month the army of Britain went against a village called *Hampton*, which lieth in the state of *Virginia*, and took it.

32 Howbeit, the little band of *Columbia*, commanded by *Crutchfield*, fought hard against them.



PAINT SHOP AND KNITTING ROOM.



"WHITTIER" SCHOOL HOUSE.

33 Nevertheless, they prevailed over him, and slew seven of his men, and wounded others, upon which he fled; for the men of Britain were like unto a swarm of locusts.

34 But the blood of two hundred royal slaves became a sacrifice to the wickedness of their leaders.

35 There is a time when truth may be uttered with pleasure; and the droppings thereof are like unto frankincense and myrrh.

36 But, alas! the hour hath passed away or it hath not yet come: she hath gone down into the vale of tears; yea, deep sorrow treadeth upon her heels.

39 Oth! Whom dost thou count on now, the treacherous one on that day—

40 They will not stand with thee, when thou art in distress, nor will the pain of a  
thamant.

41 It was here, even in the morning, that I saw the soldiers they ought to see up  
against the poor, the weak, and the wretched.

42 Instead of punishing the first sinners, and having a sword from the life of  
the world; behold! what hast thou done.

43 See! the striking image of a world full of sinners, that all may see and  
thy brutal violence, but all in vain for goodness, for thou hast let the become a  
prey to thy savage foe.

44 Not one alone, but two daughters, and a son, have I seen, whose father's unblest  
fellow hands, and have quitted?

45 Oh, Britain! the face of young and plump youth, from thee the mark  
of the beast is printed in the forehead.

46 Even the old and weak men become victims of thy baseness; thy servants  
stripped the aged *Eden* and his bones like with the hands of their enemies, did they  
torment him.

47 Do not grieve if the murdered *Eden* ever rises from earth; go thou and  
repent of thine evil deeds, or so no more the Lord God of hosts shall be thy judge.

48 The people of the land will forget the names around them, but the re-  
membrance thereof shall never forget, and none shall they forget the name  
of *Cockburn*.



ABBY M. A. DODGE, 1881

47 Even the sect of the Tories despised him; the evils which he wrought caused many of them to turn aside and walk in the foot-steps of the great Sanhedrim.

48 And thou, black *Revenge!* dreadful fiend! sleep within the precincts of Hampton; a strong seal is put upon thy sepulchre; the sons of Columbia shall not disturb thee.

49 When they pass by this ill-fated town, they shall step aside and weep; neither shall they enter the streets thereof, lest they awaken thee.

50 And woe unto the royal potentate, or the princely ruler, that shall presume to break the seal, or rouse thee from thy slumbers!

51 Thy waking will be as the waking of the hungry tiger, when he riseth up to refresh himself; retribution shall be obtained; and the heathen shall tremble."

Again, when the war of '61 broke out, was Hampton destined to still further disaster. The creek upon which the town stands was for a while the dividing line between the Union and Confederate forces; the latter occupying the western, the former the eastern side. In August, 1861, the Confederate forces under General Magruder, numbering about seven thousand men, with eight pieces of artillery, were stationed on Back river, about three miles from Hampton. His intention was to force an engagement upon the Union soldiers stationed here or at Newport News; or at least to destroy the town, and thus prevent its being used by General Butler's men or by the contrabands as winter quarters. The latter he was successful in doing, as every house but one was destroyed.



"SHELLBANKS" INDUSTRIAL HOME, SCHOOL.

A gentleman who had an office in the Connecticut courts, and was eye-witness and participant in the burning of the town, gives the following account in the same:

"The burning of this beautiful and ancient place, began very early in the morning, and was a wanton and useless destruction, the way it was carried out, by those who suggested or carried it into execution, to have any material success in completing the operations of the Federal army endangered. But as the Union was in peril, and the opinion prevailed throughout the North that the success of the Southern people were due to sympathy with the secession movement, and were such a crying scandal against their will and convictions by repeated politicians, — the consequence, in some prophetic way, to disabuse the northern mind of this error, and to bring about the ultimate conclusion of affairs, and to not suppose that a course of total extermination of a town by its own inhabitants, rather than leave it occupied by an invading force, would tend greatly to the accomplishment of this end."

"This step had several times been suggested to General McClellan, commanding on the Peninsula, and this day by residents of the town and counties but they, unwilling to sacrifice the property of citizens who had suffered so much from the ravages of war, had declined to adopt the suggestion. At length, however, he reluctantly yielded to the wishes of the people. \* \* \*

"Having stationed a detachment of 200 of the 11th Maine at the Willing farm on the Newmarket road, about five miles from Danbury, he dispatched a battalion of four companies from Col. Hodges' regiment, Captain Phillips' and Gould's companies of cavalry, and Captain Sinclair's company of engineers, in the accomplishment of the enterprise.



FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH BY AN INDIAN STUDENT OF HAMILTON INSTITUTE.

Capt. Phillips' company, the Old Dominion Dragoons, was raised in the town and county; and Capt. Sinclair's, the York Rangers, was raised in the county of York, but officered by men from Hampton; the remaining troops were from other portions of Virginia. The whole force was under the command of Col. Hodges. \* \*

"Strong guards were sent out on the Newport News and Salter's Creek roads, to prevent a surprise from that direction, as the bridge over the creek which crosses the Back River road had been burned, and a force obtaining possession of the Market road, would effectually cut off their line of retreat. A strong picket was also sent out to Hope's farm on the road leading north from the town.

"The expedition entered Hampton just after nightfall on the 9th of August, 1861, and immediately proceeded to the work of conflagration. The town, as it stood at that time, lay almost entirely on the western bank of Hampton river, and was divided into four nearly equal parts by the intersection of King and Queen streets. The plan of operation was simply to assign a detachment to each of these sections with instructions to commence on the eastern side and fire the houses as they retired. Col. Hodges halted his battalion at a line of breast works thrown up by the enemy just to the westward of the old church wall, while Capt. Phillips took command of the remaining troops and proceeded to the more active work of the night. After assigning each detachment its special work, he himself proceeded to the foot of Hampton bridge to watch any demonstrations of the enemy from the direction of Fort Monroe. After a little brisk firing the Federal picket retired and the Confederates were in undisputed possession of the town.



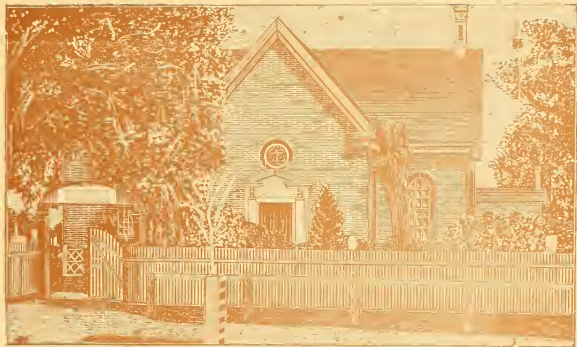
YOUNG HOPEFULS

But few of the houses were occupied; all the arms-bearing population was in the Confederate army, and of the non-combatants had fled to Williamsburg, Richmond and other places, where the Federal troops first occupied Newport News, and the Negroes, not carried away by their owners had for the most part sought the protection of the Federal line. Thus the town was virtually deserted, only a few old and infirm people remaining in it. But the most painful part of the night's work was to inform those few of the dreadful errand on which they had come.

"No time could be given for the removal of effects—what was to be done had to be done quickly; so in fifteen minutes after the citizens had been notified to leave, the work of firing had begun. So finely planned and admirably executed were the arrangements for this, that in half an hour every house had been fired, and before dawn the pretty little village was a disfigured heap of smouldering ashes and crumbling walls. Only five houses remained standing, they from some cause having failed to burn. Of these five, two were torn down the succeeding winter by the Federal troops; and now there are only two houses on the western side of the river that were built prior to the 25th day of August, 1862.

It is due to the magnanimity of General Magruder's character against the oppressions that have been and are to say that this act, since so loudly condemned, was at the time received with cordial approval.

Concurrent testimony amply proves, that in many cases property was fired by the hands of its owners or the children of its owners, and this, too, with an alacrity and zeal altogether unimagined.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, HAMPTON, BUILT 1660.

And so a curse seemed to follow the locality where the first slaves were landed, till, in God's own time, by the mighty voice of war, the imubus was lifted. It seemed fitting that here, where the Negro first felt the bitterness of slavery, he should also first taste the sweetness of freedom and liberty, for the famous "order" that made him "contraband of war," and therefore virtually gave him his liberty, was issued by General Butler in May, 1861, from the camp at Fort Monroe.

For some time after the close of the late war, but little notice was taken of Hampton. Its population was mostly colored, whose chief occupation was fishing and oystering. But soon a change came; with the establishment of the institution wherein the once down trodden race could have and enjoy the same privileges as their more favored white brethren, the designs of an All wise Providence seemed to have been fulfilled; and since then there has been improvement, slow, to be sure, but nevertheless marked. Many of the old houses have given place to more modern looking buildings; trades and manufactures are looking up; an electric railway connects it with Old Point and Newport News; its streets and houses are lighted up with electricity; northern capital is finding its way here, and Hampton seems to be on the road to a prosperous future. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway passes through the town.

The town was incorporated in 1887, and is governed by a Mayor and council, and contains about five thousand inhabitants. There are two principal streets; the main one, which the bridge opens on, being called Queen; and a cross one, about the centre of the town, which is called King. There are many other smaller streets, but the principal business houses are on these two.

The chief object of attraction in this quaint town is the



MASONIC TEMPLE, HAMPTON.

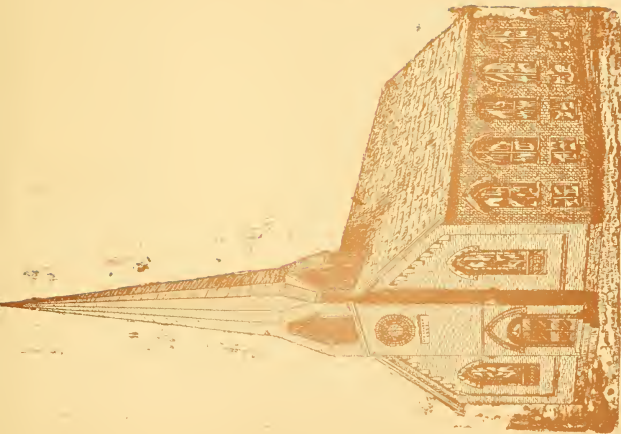
## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

which runs the whole of the side of Green Street, a short distance above Kings. We will endeavour to describe it as well as possible, so much of its history as it is at present accessible.

Under the administration of Sir Thomas Yearley, in 1620, there was a law passed that houses in which an alehouse had been and a burial ground set apart on every settlement in the county. That as Kingston was one of the earliest settled places, it is supposed to possess one, and it was reported some time previous to this date. The old records that I have examined. The new church (St. John's) was built between 1620 and 1630. The old church was for what was known at the "Pembroke farm" about three quarters of a mile from the St. John's Church, on the same road.

There are several fine old gravestones all on the place. Among other interments is that of Sir John Berkeley, Vice Admiral of His Majesty's Fleet in the West Indies who died in 1667.

The present Vicar (name of the church) dates back no further than 1741, the original having been lost or destroyed. But the records of the Court extend back nearly 400 and contain curious and good and bad information. The first record we have is that of the Church Wardens presenting to the Court an unworthy female in 1644. In 1650, the same year of the Rev. Joshua Aylmer, who officiated till 1667. He was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Taylor, who buried a Mr. Nicolas Baker in the *New Church of Kingston*. From 1667, any year there was a new and old church standing



M. E. CHURCH, HAMPTON.

Rev. Jeremiah Taylor was succeeded in 1607 by Rev. John Page. By the court records we learn that Taylor was a stranger to the place and to the community. Rev. John Page was succeeded by Rev. Caleb Dutton in 1635. He by Rev. Andrew Thompson in 1712. He was buried on the Putnam farm. On his tomb is the following:

"Here lyeth ye body of Mr. Andrew Thompson, who was born at Southfield in Scotland, and was buried in this place, about three weekes after the death of Sept. 16 ye 46 yeare of his age. Being in the 10th yeare of his second marriage."

He was succeeded by Rev. John Thompson in 1710. He to Rev. Wm. H. in 1731. He by Rev. Thos. Warrington in 1730. He by Rev. Wm. Selkirk in 1775. He by Rev. Wm. Nixon in 1782. How long he lived is not known. It is supposed that Rev. Mr. Skyren held post-mortem in the graveyard around a corner under Mr. Nixon. He was probably succeeded by Rev. John James Selkirk who died in 1790. His memorial stone can be seen on the east side of the road. He was succeeded by Rev. Benjamin Brown who died in 1800. His memorial stone can be seen to the right of the door entering from the west. There being no covering of Yewes from 1786 till 1800, it is impossible to read the names there. At the meeting of 1804, Rev. George Halsey was chosen pastor. Rev. Mr. Selkirk died and served for a short period. About 1807, a young lady, having another meeting arranged when the Rev. Marl. L. Cheever was chosen, was served as pastor. Some time with the chaplaincy of Old Point Comfort, Va. 1812. He to Rev. Mr. Barnard became its minister in 1815. Rev. Mr. Barnard was succeeded by Mr. Halsey in 1858; he by Mr. Halsey in 1860; he by Mr. Halsey in 1863; he by Mr. Newland



descendants of the aboriginal races of our continent. During the war of 1812, the church was occupied by the British Forces, who used it for various purposes, and left nothing standing but the walls. At this time the iron-work of the bell tower was so decayed that the "Old Queen Anne" bell had to be taken down and placed in the angle made by the chancel and the tower. From that position it was removed, by order of Major Crutchfield, commanding the troops, and sent on "Little England Farm," to the gunnery house at that establishment, and a short time after, the tongue became loose, so axe was used to strike the tongue and the bell cracked. It was recast in 1825. At this time also, a meeting of the church was called, a vestry elected, and enough subscriptions obtained to have the church put in order; and it seemed as though its tribulations were over. But, at the beginning of the late war, it was set on fire by the Confederates, and burned to the ground; but still the old walls held firmly together, as though in defiance of anything that men would do to them. To test its strength still more, excavations were made under every corner of the building for the purpose of finding the corner stone, and there is getting any valuables that might be secreted therein. The oldest known grave in this church yard is 1701. The church can be visited at any hour of the day. If it is not open, the key can be obtained from the sexton, who lives but a few doors away.

The finest building in the town is the Masonic Temple, on Queen street near King. It is a three story brick structure, built in 1886, at a cost of about \$13,000. The first floor is a store, the second story is divided into offices and the third floor is used by the various Masonic Bodies for Lodge purposes.



A SUBURBAN RESIDENCE.

On King street, a few doors from Queen, is the Post Office. The Court House and Jail, remodelled in 1895, are also on this street. The old Records, which are still in a good state of preservation, can be seen by visitors upon application at the clerk's office, on the first floor.

There are both white and colored Baptist and Methodist churches in the town, also a white Presbyterian church of the Presbytery. There are two Banks, the Bank of Hampton, of which H. C. Wadsworth, Esq. is president, and a private bank controlled by the Mess. S. Smith & Brothers. Both are actively transacting business. There are two first class Hotels as well as numerous private boarding houses in the town and vicinity. Oystering and fishing are the chief occupations of the people. Thousands of barrels of the famous oysters are shipped north every year, by the several firms engaged in the business. Crabbing is another important industry, and affords employment to several hundred men. An iron foundry has been running successfully for several years, the business finding its ready market; and an ice factory is run in connection with the oyster yards.

As we drive through the town we are struck through and through by the "blays" "before we do." The women, many of whom are colored, dressed in frocks, with the sable, happy look upon their faces, and are either busily mending their pipes, or gossiping with their neighbors, the men, too, are as fully "choking on" as the law permits, playing around under the name of "going along without doing" is a necessary adjunct to put a smiling face on the work, and the general rule is—the poorer the family, the greater the number of pipes.

Having visited the principal places of interest on the locality, we will turn our horses' heads towards the Farm, and leave the town and surrounding places of interest for another day and chapter.



AN OTHER SECTION OF THE SCHOOL.

## Newport News.

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To reach this thriving city, the future metropolis of the South, we take the electric cars at Old Point Comfort, and a ride of thirty minutes brings us to the end of our journey. The city is situated on a point of land at the mouth of James River, overlooking Hampton Roads, about seven miles from Hampton, and receives its name in commemoration of the news brought from England by Capt. Newport, to the starving colony in the neighborhood.

It was never considered a place of much importance, and it seems strange that a lapse of so many years should occur before the beauty and natural advantages of the location should be discovered and utilized.

The Chesapeake & Ohio railway company in extending its route, decided upon Newport News as a shipping point for coal, grain, etc., it being considerably nearer the ocean than New York, and with a water frontage unexcelled by any other place in the country. On Sunday, October 10th, 1881, at 2 p. m., Major J. J. Gordon, "drove home" the "silver spike" which indicated the completion of the road from the Ohio to the Chesapeake.

The land embraced by the city is owned by the Old Dominion Land Company, and about one thousand acres have been regularly laid out in streets 60 feet wide, crossed by a number of avenues 30 feet in width.



THE VINEY BUILDING, NEWPORT NEWS.





RUE RAPS, 1100 S. L. HAYZIA HOTEL.

furnishes employment for about five thousand mechanics. Several ships of the largest tonnage have been constructed, and several more are under way.

The dry dock is said to be the largest and finest in the world, being 600 feet long.

There are a number of other industries, such as an iron foundry, broom factory, ice factory, sawmills, etc., and yet others in contemplation. A company has been organized, which furnishes water for the city, the supply being obtained from the various streams that run through the city and Williamsburg. An electric railway also connects the city with Hampton and Old Point, cars running every half hour.

Nearly all the available land in the immediate vicinity has been bought up, and is held by various companies, holding title can be bought just outside of the city, at very reasonable rates and on easy terms. All cases are in great demand, and property is increasing in value every day.

The city has a daily paper, the *Sun*, established in 1892, Democratic in politics,

*The Commercial*, a weekly paper established by Mr. John Viney in 1884, is still in successful operation, and is being purchased for Mr. J. A. Robinson, a New Jersey journalist. It makes no pretense to politics.

The C. & O. Railway has built a handsome passenger depot, and many other improvements are in contemplation.

There are many handsome brick structures from three to five stories high, on the principal streets, among them being the Venable Building, National Banks, F. N. Pike's, Nelms Brothers', Schmeltz Bro., W. Walsh's, and others.

Newport News is the county seat, and has one of the neatest brick court houses in the state.



COMBAT BETWEEN THE MONITOR AND MERRIMAC.

## Norfolk.

NORFOLK is situated on the East Coast of England, being separated from the continent by the river of the Wash, which is about 100 miles long, and is 1000 feet deep. The town of Norwich is the chief port, and is situated on the river of the Great Ouse, which is about 100 miles long. The county is bounded to the north by the county of Lincoln, to the east by the county of Suffolk, to the south by the county of Hampshire, and to the west by the county of Devon. The county is divided into 100 parishes, and is governed by a county council.

Norfolk is a county of great antiquity, and is one of the most fertile in England. It is bounded to the north by the county of Lincoln, to the east by the county of Suffolk, to the south by the county of Hampshire, and to the west by the county of Devon. The county is divided into 100 parishes, and is governed by a county council.

The first time the county of Norfolk was mentioned in the history of England was in the year 1000, when it was mentioned in the Domesday Book. The county was then divided into 100 parishes, and was governed by a county council.

The county of Norfolk is one of the most fertile in England, and is bounded to the north by the county of Lincoln, to the east by the county of Suffolk, to the south by the county of Hampshire, and to the west by the county of Devon. The county is divided into 100 parishes, and is governed by a county council.



GARDEN, N.

In 1775 the British fleet at the mouth of the harbor, anchored in the harbor.

On the 10th day of January 1776 the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British.

During the winter of 1776 the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and persons passed between New York and the British fleet.

On the 10th day of January 1776 the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and persons passed between New York and the British fleet.

In 1776, New York was the first city in the world to be visited by a pestilence, which was brought in by the British fleet. The pestilence spread with great rapidity, and the daily reached as high as eight. The pestilence was the first of its kind in the history of the world. Out of an average population of 100,000, the pestilence took the lives of 10,000 people in 10 days.

January 15th, 1776, a great snow storm took place in this season. Passengers from New York to the British fleet were delayed by the snow storm. On the ice, the lady passed the day in a small boat.

April 2nd, 1776, the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and persons passed between New York and the British fleet.

The first battle of the Revolution was fought on the 19th of April, 1776, at the Battle of the Clouds, near the mouth of the harbor.

On the 19th of April, 1776, the British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and persons passed between New York and the British fleet. The British fleet was defeated and set on fire by the British, and persons passed between New York and the British fleet.









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